

Houghton-le-Spring Urban District Council



**REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
and
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
for the year 1969**

**P. A. Y. NARAYANAN,
M.B., B.S., D.T.M.&H., D.P.H.**

**N. POUNDER,
M.A.P.H.I.**

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Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Broadway,
Houghton-le-Spring,
Co. Durham.

Tel.: Houghton-le-Spring 3222.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the Health and Welfare of the Urban District and the duties carried out by the Health Department in the year 1969.

There has been again a slight increase in the population compared to last year. The birth rate was similar to the previous year being 17.4 per 1,000 population. The death rate was 11.7 per 1,000 population. The Infant Mortality rate was 13 per 1,000 live births.

There has been no serious outbreaks of any of the notifiable diseases.

During the year Mr. N. Pounder and Mr. W. Snowball retired from their posts as Chief Public Health Inspector and Deputy Health Inspector. Both of them had served this Council for a considerable number of years very diligently and efficiently, and I take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of their service.

Mr. J. R. Hall succeeded to the post of Chief Public Health Inspector and Mr. Snowball's post was filled by Mr. W. Woods who had been working for a neighbouring Authority for a number of years, and Mr. J. K. Scurr was appointed as Additional Public Health Inspector.

The Old People's Welfare Committee has been functioning efficiently, as ever. I take this opportunity of thanking the various voluntary workers who have contributed their time and energy to the welfare of the aged in the district.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council, the various General Practitioners in the district, the Hospital Consultants, Dr. Crone of the Public Health Laboratory, the various Chief Officers and their staff, and the members of my own department for their continued help and co-operation during the year.

Dr. P. A. Y. NARAYANAN,
M.B., B.S., D.T.M. & H., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1969

Members of the Health Committee, 1969

Chairman of the Health Committee: Councillor Mrs. P. Alderson,
77 Rose Avenue, Fence Houses.

Houghton Ward

Councillor R. Allison, 62 Gillas Lane, Houghton-le-Spring.
Councillor J. Bartley, 32 Burns Avenue North, Houghton-le-Spring.
Councillor A. Belton, 58 Gillas Lane, Houghton-le-Spring.
Councillor E. Bramfitt, 66 Dunelm Drive, Houghton-le-Spring.
Councillor R. Geddes, 27 Ironside Street, Houghton-le-Spring.
Alderman H. Hodgson, 26 Jubilee Cottages, Houghton-le-Spring.
Councillor E. Kelly, J.P., 14 Burns Avenue South, Houghton-le-Spring.
Councillor I. J. Lumley, 48 Leyburn Grove, Houghton-le-Spring.
Councillor J. Storey, 6 Scott Street, Houghton-le-Spring.

Penshaw Ward

Councillor G. D. Edgar, Langley House, Penshaw.
Councillor J. Mawston, 10 Hindsons Crescent North, Shiney Row.
Councillor W. J. McKinley, 91 Whitefield Crescent, Penshaw.
Councillor Mrs. M. E. Porter, 58 Claremont Drive, Shiney Row.
Councillor S. Webster, 24 Avondale Avenue, Penshaw.
Councillor T. Willis, 12 Brentwood Road, Shiney Row.
Councillor J. J. Brown, 39 The Harbour, Shiney Row.
Councillor L. Irving, Penshaw House, Shiney Row.
Councillor T. W. F. Robson, 11 Hindsons Crescent North, Shiney Row.

Fence Houses Ward

Councillor Mrs. P. Alderson, 77 Rose Avenue, Fence Houses.
Councillor Mrs. M. Brown, 52 Front Street, Fence Houses.
Councillor M. Dowell 24 Cedar Terrace, Fence Houses.
Councillor J. Cummins, 29 Rose Avenue, Fence Houses.

Herrington Ward

Councillor J. Avery, 12 Railway Terrace, New Herrington.
Councillor A. Walmsley, 97 Fletcher Crescent, New Herrington.
Councillor Mrs. F. C. Winship, 30 Southburn Terrace, New Herrington.

Newbottle Ward

Councillor E. Dawson, 4 St. Cuthbert's Road, Newbottle.
Councillor L. R. Holmes, 4 Lumley Crescent, Philadelphia.
Councillor W. E. Marshall, 14 Hazel Terrace, Newbottle.
Councillor G. Elliott, 5 Thorneyburn Close, Houghton-le-Spring.

Public Health Officers and Staff of the Authority

The Staff consists of:—

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH : Dr. P. A. Y. Narayanan, M.B., B.S., D.T.M. & H., D.P.H. Conjoint appointment with Hetton Urban District Council, Washington Urban District Council and Assistant Medical Officer for Durham County Council.

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT : N. Pounder. Whole-time. Holds Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Certificate for the Inspection of Meat and other Foods. Also acts as Factory and Workshops Inspector and Inspector under the Shops Act and Petroleum Acts. (Retired in August and was succeeded by Mr. J. R. Hall.)

DEPUTY SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR : W. Snowball. Whole-time. Holds Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Certificate for the Inspection of Meat and Other Foods. (Retired in October and was succeeded by Mr. W. Woods.)

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR: J. R. Hall. Whole-time. Holds Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Certificate for the Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.

SURVEYOR AND ENGINEER : A. Veitch. Whole-time. Associate Member of Institute of Municipal Engineers, Associate Member of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors.

CLERK : Mrs. A. Smith.

CLERK TYPIST : Miss J. Heskett.

JUNIOR CLERK TYPIST : Miss J. Markham.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area in acres—6,826 acres in April, 1969.

Registrar General's Estimate of resident population—mid year—1969
—32,210

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1969) according to Rate Books
—11,114.

Rateable Value—£810,527.

Sum represented by a penny rate—£3,172 1s. 5d.

Health Services administered by the County Council

The County Council are the Local Health Authority under the National Health Service Act and are responsible for the following services :—

Ambulance	Domestic Helps
Home Nursing	Health Visitors
Vaccination—Smallpox and Poliomyelitis	Child Welfare and Maternity Services
Immunisation against Diphtheria	School Medical Services
Welfare of the Aged	Care of the Blind and certain other handicapped persons

The County Council are also responsible for the administration of Part III of the National Insurance Act, 1948.

FOOD AND DRUGS INSPECTORS are also appointed by and work under the direction of the County Council.

The Ministry of Agriculture are responsible for the carrying out of the routine examination of the cow population throughout the County in order to maintain and raise the standard of the health of the cows, this work being carried out by their own Veterinary Inspectors.

Vital Statistics

Births and Birth Rate

The nett number of live births (as corrected by the Registrar General for the outward and inward transfers) during 1969 was 560 compared with 563 for 1968.

Sex and legitimacy are shown thus :—

		Total	Male	Female	
Live Births	{ Legitimate	537	302	235	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population 17.4.
	{ Illegitimate	23	12	11	

The Registrar General states the Birth Rate per 1,000 population in England and Wales (live births) was 16.3 for 1969.

Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births was 4, as compared with 8 for England and Wales.

Year	Total live births	Males	Females	Rate per 1,000 population	Excess births over deaths
1960	582	285	297	18.44	231
1961	565	308	257	18.42	228
1962	605	305	300	19.66	238
1963	575	282	293	18.67	215
1964	575	298	277	18.5	237
1965	506	256	250	16.23	129
1966	538	304	234	17.24	178
1967	555	287	274	17.6	214
1968	563	292	271	17.6	185
1969	560	314	246	17.4	182

Still Births—During 1969 there were 24 still births in the district.

Total Male Female					Rate per 1,000 live and still births.
Still Births	{	Legitimate	12	4	
	{	Illegitimate	2	—	
				2	

(Total live and still births was 574 for 1969)

Still Births for England and Wales was 13 per 1,000 live and still births.

Deaths and Death Rate

The Registrar General reports that during 1969, 378 persons normally residing in the Urban Area died, being 210 males and 168 females.

The death rate was, therefore, 11.7 per 1,000 population.

This compares with 11.8 for 1968. (Death rate in England and Wales was 11.9 for 1969.)

Deaths from Puerperal Causes

There were no deaths among women from puerperal sepsis and none from other puerperal causes.

The Maternal mortality rate was 0.00 per 1,000 live and still births.

Death Rate of Infants under One Year

7 children died during 1969 before attaining the age of one year, being 6 legitimate males and 1 legitimate female, equivalent to an Infantile Mortality Rate of 13 (per 1,000 births) compared to 18 (per 1,000 live births) for England and Wales.

Infantile Mortality Rate

	Local Authority Area	England and Wales
Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births ...	13	18
Deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 legitimate live births	13	17
Deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 illegitimate live births	—	25

Death rate of infants under one year of age according to the total number of live births and legitimacy for the year 1960 - 1969.

Year	All Infants per 1,000 live births		Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births		Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	
1960	...	24.05	...	24.60	...	00.00
1961	...	26.54	...	27.22	...	00.00
1962	...	24.79	...	25.59	...	00.00
1963	...	15.65	...	16.24	...	47.61
1964	...	15.65	...	16.48	...	00.00
1965	...	19.76	...	14.52	...	00.125
1966	...	26.02	...	26.92	...	00.00
1967	...	23.42	...	24.48	..	00.00
1968	...	12.43	...	12.96	...	00.00
1969	...	13.00	...	13.00	...	00.00

Of the 7 infants who died under one year of age, the cause of death was attributed to Prematurity in 2 cases, Respiratory Infection in 2 cases, Congenital Malformations in 2 cases and birth injury in 1 case. Of these 5 died under 1 week and 2 under 4 weeks.

Nett Live Births — Legitimate				Illegitimate			
				Males	Females	Males	Females
Corrected as per Registrar							
General	...	...	302	235	12	11	= 560
Nett Deaths	...	...	6	1	—	—	= 7

DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS AND AGE INCIDENCE IN
HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING URBAN DISTRICT

Under 4 weeks		4 weeks & under 1 yr.		1 year		5 years		15 years		25 years		35 years		45 years		55 years		65 years		75 years and over		Totals	
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
6	-	-	1	1	-	2	2	1	4	4	2	20	10	36	31	71	45	68	73	210	168		

Causes of Death in Houghton-le-Spring Urban District during 1969

Causes of Death						Male	Female
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity, etc.	...					—	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	...	...	...			5	7
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	...	...	...			6	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	...	...				10	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	...	...	...			—	7
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	...	...	...			—	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	...	...	...			3	—
Leukaemia	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms	...	...	...			8	11
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	...	...				1	1
Diabetes Mellitus	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Anaemias	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Other Diseases of Nervous System,	...	...				7	2
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	...	...	...			2	2
Hypertensive Disease	...	...	...	...		5	5
Ischaemic Heart Disease	...	...	...	...		56	45
Other Forms of Heart Disease	...	...	...			10	3
Cerebrovascular Disease	...	...	...	...		22	25
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	...	...				8	11
Influenza	...	..	...	...	...	3	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	19	12
Bronchitis and Emphysema	...	...	...	...		17	4
Asthma	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	...	...				5	3
Peptic Ulcer	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	...	...	...			—	2
Other Diseases of Digestive System	...	...				2	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	...	...		1	—
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	...	...				3	1
Abortion	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Other Complications of Pregnancy, etc.	...	...				—	1
Congenital Anomalies	...	...	...	...		2	—
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	...	...				1	—
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	...	...				3	—
Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	...	...				1	—
Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	...	...	...		3	1
All other Accidents	...	...	...	...		2	6
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	...	...	...			1	1
TOTAL ALL CAUSES						210	168

Certain Specified Causes of Death

(a) TUBERCULOSIS :

During 1969 there were no deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis and there were no deaths from non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

(b) VASCULAR DISEASE (CARDIAC & CEREBRAL) :

Vascular Diseases were, as in former years, the chief cause of death throughout the area; 194 persons—being 103 males and 91 females—were certified to have died from this cause. This is equivalent to 51.32 of the total deaths and a mortality rate of 6.02 per 1,000 population.

Comparative Table :—

Year	Total Deaths All Causes	Deaths due to Heart Disease			Death Rate per 1000 population		Percentage Total Deaths due to Heart Disease
		Total	M	F	All Causes	Heart Disease	
1960	351	176	98	78	11.12	5.57	50.14
1961	337	182	104	78	10.98	5.93	54.00
1962	367	186	106	80	11.93	6.04	50.69
1963	360	197	106	91	11.69	6.39	54.72
1964	338	178	104	74	10.87	5.72	52.13
1965	377	197	106	91	12.09	6.32	52.25
1966	360	187	89	98	11.54	5.99	51.94
1967	341	180	86	94	10.80	5.69	52.78
1968	378	198	102	96	11.80	6.19	52.38
1969	378	194	103	91	11.70	6.02	51.32

(c) CANCER :

69 deaths—being 33 males and 36 females—were due to cancer. This is equivalent to a mortality rate of 2.14 per 1,000 population or 18.25% of the total deaths.

Comparative table of deaths due to cancer for the years 1960-1969.

		Number of Deaths				Total	Mortality Rate per 1,000 pop.
		Male		Female			
1960	...	32	...	36	...	68	2.15
1961	...	28	...	30	...	58	1.89
1962	...	32	...	31	...	63	2.04
1963	...	30	...	26	...	56	1.81
1964	...	31	...	28	...	59	1.89
1965	...	24	...	30	...	54	1.73
1966	...	35	...	24	...	59	1.89
1967	...	38	...	33	...	71	2.24
1968	...	36	...	33	...	69	2.15
1969	...	33	...	36	...	69	2.14

Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious and other Diseases

During 1969 some 103 cases of infectious disease (including all forms of Tuberculosis) were notified, a decrease of 142 compared with the number of cases during 1968.

Scarlet Fever : 6 cases were notified as against 5 in 1968. The case incidence was 0.18 per 1,000 population.

Diphtheria : There were no cases of diphtheria in the district during 1969 as in 1968 and, therefore no deaths from this cause. The incidence of diphtheria in the district was 0.00 per 1,000 population.

Influenza : 4 deaths were ascribed to influenza during 1969 as against nil in 1968 and 1967.

There were 31 deaths as being ascribed to pneumonia as against 23 in 1968, while the number of cases of pneumonia notified was nil as against one in 1967 and nil in 1966.

Measles and Whooping Cough : In 1969 there were 7 cases of measles and 10 cases of whooping cough as against 190 cases of measles and no cases of whooping cough in 1968.

There were no deaths from measles or whooping cough during the year.

Infective Jaundice : There were 46 cases of Infective Jaundice notified during the year.

Poliomyelitis : During 1969 no cases of poliomyelitis were notified in the area, being a case incidence of 0.00 per 1,000 population.

School Notification of Disease : No fresh cases of any notifiable disease were notified from the schools.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING 1969 — SHOWING AGE, INCIDENCE AND DISTRIBUTION
ADMISSION TO HOSPITAL AND CASE RATES

Disease	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-24 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65 & over	Totals	Hou- ghon	Pen- shaw	Fence Houses	New- bottle	Herr- ington	Hospi- tal	No. per 1000 pop	Total Deaths
Measles	-	1	1	1	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	7	6	1	-	-	-	-	.21	-
Whooping Cough ..	1	-	-	2	-	6	1	-	-	-	-	10	-	9	-	1	-	-	.31	-
Scarlet Fever ..	-	-	-	-	1	4	1	-	-	-	-	6	1	4	-	-	1	-	.18	-
Dysentery	-	2	-	1	-	11	2	-	3	-	-	19	-	17	-	-	2	-	.59	-
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	6	4	13	3	5	3	2	-	9	.40	-
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	1	.06	-
Infective Jaundice ..	-	-	-	1	1	15	19	-	6	4	-	46	2	36	1	3	4	1	1.42	-
TOTALS	1	3	1	5	4	38	23	-	13	11	4	103	13	73	4	6	7	11		-

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION, 1969

COMPLETED PRIMARY COURSES

		1969	1968	1967	1966	1962-65	Others under 16	Total
Diphtheria	...	24	204	11	1	68	3	311
Whooping Cough	...	24	204	10	1	3	1	243
Tetanus	...	24	204	12	1	67	8	316
Poliomyelitis	...	17	208	18	4	63	2	312

REINFORCING DOSES

		1969	1968	1967	1966	1962-65	Others under 16	Total
Diphtheria	...	—	29	135	18	362	9	553
Whooping Cough	...	—	29	131	13	90	6	269
Tetanus	...	—	29	134	18	363	17	561
Poliomyelitis	...	—	3	7	2	362	8	382

SMALLPOX

(1) Primary Vaccinations

Under 1 year	...	8
1 year	...	165
2— 4 years	...	23
5—15 years	...	15

Total ... 211

(2) Revaccinations

2— 4 years	...	—
5—15 years	...	4

Total ... 4

B.C.G. Vaccination

Number of Consents	...	...	...	...	417
Number Tested	...	...	...	...	359
Number Positive	...	...	...	...	13
Number Negative	...	...	...	...	332
Number Vaccinated	...	...	...	...	331
Number Absent at time of reading	...	...	...	...	14
Number not vaccinated for medical reasons	...	...	...	...	1

Area No. 5 — Houghton

B.C.G. VACCINATION

School	Consents	Given skin Test		Date of Skin Test	Positive Reactors		Negative Reactors given B.C.G.		Date of B.C.G. Vacc.	No. absent at time of Reading	Neg. reactors not vacc. for med. reasons
		No.	%		No.	%	No.	%			
Houghton Secondary	146	132	90.4	20/1/70	3	2.3	126	95.5	27/1/70	3	—
Bernard Gilpin Secondary	105	90	85.7	8/1/70	1	1.1	87	96.7	15/1/70	2	—
Houghton R.C.	38	27	71.1	8/1/70	2	7.4	23	85.2	15/1/70	2	—
Newbottle Secondary	37	33	89.2	7/1/70	—	—	31	93.9	14/1/70	2	—
Shiney Row	91	77	84.6	7/1/70	7	9.1	64	83.1	14/1/70	5	1
TOTAL	417	359	86.1		13	3.6	331	92.2		14	1

Tuberculosis

There has been no action taken during 1969 under the Public Health Act (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade), or Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis).

The following table shows the notifications of Tuberculosis, pulmonary and non-pulmonary, according to sex, for the period 1960-69

Year	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1960	6	6	12	1	1	2
1961	2	2	4	3	1	4
1962	11	4	15	—	1	1
1963	5	5	10	1	4	5
1964	7	11	18	1	1	2
1965	5	2	7	—	1	—
1966	13	4	17	—	3	3
1967	11	6	17	—	1	1
1968	9	3	12	1	—	1
1969	10	3	13	—	2	2

The following table shows the various age-period for males and females, at which new cases were notified and when death occurred.

Age Period			New Cases				Deaths			
			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 year	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2— 4	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5— 9	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—14	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—19	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—24	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—34	...	...	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
35—44	...	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—54	...	...	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—64	...	...	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
65—74	...	...	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
75 and over	...	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
			10	3	—	2	—	—	—	—

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

Water supply

The water supply of the Urban area was taken over by the Sunderland and South Shields Water Company at the beginning of April, 1957.

The water supplied to the area has been satisfactory in quality and quantity.

Bacteriological examinations were made periodically of the water supplied, and of the 188 samples examined all were of satisfactory purity.

The water had no detectable plumbo-solvent action; the supply is chlorinated and no contamination has taken place.

There are approximately 12,618 dwellings connected to the Company's mains, serving approximately 31,000 persons, and there are no standpipes in the area. Fluoride content: 0.2 p.p.m. Burnhope; 0.5 p.p.m. Derwent.

Housing

The number of houses in course of erection on the 31st December, 1969, was as follows:—

Council Houses	112
Private Houses	85

Refuse Collection

The collection of household and trade refuse has continued throughout the year without any major difficulties. However, it is becoming increasingly apparent that the use of 10 cu. yard side loading vehicles is uneconomic. This is due to the increase in volume of the refuse to be collected.

This increase in volume is brought about by a number of reasons, e.g. :

1. More and more properties are being equipped with oil or gas central heating installations and thereby creating a situation where there are no fires on which to burn combustible materials.
2. The installation of the enclosed space heater using specially produced fuels on which it is difficult to burn combustible rubbish.
3. The increasing trend of manufacturers to use "one-trip" containers in the pre-packaging of their products, i.e., bottles, cartons, cans and plastics, etc.
4. A more prosperous society spending more on consumer goods such as televisions, washing machines and furnishings, etc.

The result of these trends therefore is for the refuse to become more bulky even though the relative weight is decreasing.

Due to the erection of new business premises the collection of trade refuse has been increased, as has also the collection of unwanted furniture, pianos and mattresses, etc.

Refuse Disposal

The disposal of refuse is carried out principally at Cross Rigg Quarry, Penshaw, under controlled conditions with a second tip at Newobttle coming into use during winter months.

Tipping at Penshaw, however, is becoming more and more of a problem due to its exposed position and to the changing nature of the refuse to be tipped. However, every effort is made to reduce the nuisance from blown paper, etc., by consolidating and sealing the tip face at the end of each day

Ashbins

Private householders have purchased from the Council 43 good quality $2\frac{1}{2}$ cu. ft. and $6\frac{3}{4}$ cu. ft. B.S.S. ashbins.

Baled Cardboard and Paper Return for the Year

Regular collections are made from all factories and business premises. Amount sold 22 tons 8 cwts., realising £178/4/0d.

Camping and Caravan Sites

Showmen's caravans displaced by road works from the site owned by the Showmen's Guild in the "Lake", are temporarily using a cleared area of land at New Herrington.

During the year the Guild submitted proposals for the layout of a permanent site at Sunnyside.

Swimming Baths and Pools

Only one swimming bath is in existence in the district. This is situated at a school in the Houghton Ward.

Schools

The sanitary conditions of the schools were found to be generally satisfactory.

Places of Entertainment

These premises are inspected regularly, with regard to sanitary arrangements and a reasonable standard was found to exist.

Licensed Premises

All licensed premises in the district are regularly inspected. In a few cases, certain improvements to the sanitary accommodation were suggested to the brewery companies and these were readily carried out.

Verminous Premises

There was one Verminous Premises notified during the year.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

During the year 191 visits were made by inspectors to premises registered under the Act.

Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	No. of premises registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	1	50	24
Retail Shops	3	146	43
Wholesale Shops, warehouses	—	5	—
Catering establishments, canteens	1	20	12
Fuel Storage depots ...	—	—	—

Analysis of Persons Employed in Registered Premises by Workplace

Class of Workplace	No. of Persons Employed
Offices	779
Retail Shops	710
Wholesale Shops, warehouses	9
Catering Establishments	83
Canteens	—
Fuel Storage Depots	—
Total ...	1,581

Total number of Males 678. Total number of Females 903.

6 notices have been served in appropriate cases.

3 accidents of a minor character were notified and investigated and particulars forwarded to H.M. Factory Inspectorate.

Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964

The number of persons registered under the Act with this Authority fell from 20 in 1968 to 12 in the year under review.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

In addition to surface infestations, the responsibility for sewer treatments is also with the Health Department. In this connection, the success achieved in 1968 by letting out to contract a spring and autumn sewer treatment by a specialist firm was continued.

One trained operator is employed full-time on surface treatments of both rodent and insect pests.

Refuse disposal tips and sewage works are given particular attention against rodents and flies.

254 cases of rat, mouse and other infestations were reported and dealt with during the year.

Water, Food and Drugs	Number	Remarks
Samples of Water taken for Analysis ...	192	
Samples of Water condemned as unfit for use	—	
Seizures of Unwholesome Food	—	
Convictions for exposing or selling Unwholesome Food	—	
Samples of Food and Drugs taken for Analysis	98	
Samples found Adulterated	1	
Precautions against Infectious Disease		
Lots of Infectious Bedding stoved of destroyed	—	
Houses disinfected after Infectious Disease	—	
Schools disinfected after Infectious Disease	—	
Prosecutions for exposure of infected persons or things	—	
Convictions for exposure of infected persons or things	—	
General		
Number of New Houses erected during year	261	Council 159
Number of such Houses occupied during year	261	Private 102

Housing Conditions

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1969

Housing Acts, 1936-61

Particulars of Work carried out during the year

1. Clearance Areas, Section 42	...	...	...	...	Nil
2. Individual Unfit houses, Section 16-17, dealt with during the year	...	...	...	...	95
3. Parts of Buildings Closed, Section 18	...	...	...	...	1
4. Houses Demolished during the year, including Clearance Areas and Individual Unfit Houses	...	...	...	...	60
5. Individual Houses Made Fit following Informal Action	...	...	...	...	65

Owing to the shortage of "jobbing builders" and the cost of labour it is exceedingly difficult to get any form of minor repair work completed.

Housing Improvements Act, 1949

	Discretionary Grants	Standard Grants
Applications submitted to Local Authority	8	73
Applications rejected	—	—
No. of applications approved since inception of scheme	553	530
No. of Grants paid since inception of scheme	535	474

Closet Accommodation

Ash-pit privies converted into water-closets	...	Nil
Ash-closets converted into water-closets	...	Nil
Total number of ash-pit privies in District	...	13

Housing

SITE	No. of houses erected prior to 1969	No. of houses erected during 1969	No. of houses in course of erection at 31/12/69	TOTAL
Racecourse Estate	468	—	—	468
Hetton Road ...	316	—	—	316
Hall Lane ...	177	—	—	177
Newtown ...	92	—	—	92
Market Place ..	90	—	—	90
North Rectory ...	74	—	—	74
Villa Estate ...	182	—	—	182
Burnside Estate ...	437	—	—	437
Homelands Est. ...	184	—	—	184
Cellar Hill Est. ...	144	—	—	144
South St. N'botile	8	—	—	8
Sunniside ...	415	11	—	426
Success Estate ...	58	—	—	58
Hillside Estate ...	72	—	—	72
Chilton Moor Est.	168	—	—	168
Colliery Row Est.	76	—	—	76
Grange Estate ...	503	—	—	503
George St., F./H.	44	—	—	44
Durham Street ...	32	—	—	32
Sedgeleth Road .	40	—	—	40
St. Aidan's Est. ...	138	—	—	138
Chester Road ...	311	—	—	311
Station Road ...	66	—	—	66
Penshaw Hill ..	96	—	—	96
New Penshaw ...	40	—	—	40
Barnwell Est. ..	595	46	—	641
Park Estate ...	268	—	—	268
Hindson Cres. S.	110	—	—	110
Hindson Cres. N.	256	—	—	256
Railway Terrace, Penshaw ...	6	—	—	6
Arcon Estate ...	114	—	—	114
James Tce., F./H.	18	20	—	38
Dene Gardens ...	—	25	—	25
Town Centre ...	—	48	—	48
Westbourne Tce....	—	6	70	76
Normandy Cres. ...	—	3	—	3
Bonadventure ..	—	—	13	13
South View, F./H.	—	—	29	29
	5598	159	112	5869

159 houses were completed by direct labour and 112 were under construction at the end of 1969.

102 houses were built by private enterprise without state assistance and 85 were under construction on the 31st December, 1969. The numbers and location of Local Authority houses are shown on the above table.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Milk Supplies

During the year 141 samples of milk were taken by the D.C.C. for examination and generally were found satisfactory.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

During the year 127 samples of food and drugs were taken in the Urban District by Weights and Measures Inspectors of the Durham County Council.

From the samples taken, a sack of tapioca was found to be adulterated with miscellaneous objects.

In this case the defendant was fined £25 plus £9 19s. 0d costs.

The Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958.

The Meat Inspections Regulations, 1963.

100% inspection is carried out by your inspectors at the four licensed slaughterhouses within the Urban area. This entails daily visits, also Saturday and Bank Holiday inspection duties.

The following animals were slaughtered during the year:—

Cattle, 4,933; cows, 577; sheep and lambs, 19,330; calves, 256; pigs, 3,694; making a total of 28,790, all of which were inspected.

The results of inspections are contained in the following tables:

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	4933	577	256	19330	3694
Number inspected ..	4933	577	256	19330	3694
All diseases except T.B.—					
Whole carcasses con- demned	10	12	19	161	8
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	734	92	5	3143	194
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B. . .	16.50	18.02	9.37	16.57	5.46
T.B. only—					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	—	—	—	—	4
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	—	—	—	—	0.18

WEIGHT CONDEMNED (in Lbs.)

	Other Diseases			T.B.		
	Carcases	Organs	Parts	Carcases	Organs	Parts
Cattle—excl. Cows	3825	2352	13215	—	—	—
Cows	4730	350	254	—	—	—
Calves	737	—	8	—	—	—
Sheep	6836	1155	11977	—	—	—
Pigs	1237	388	426	—	—	—
	17365	4245	25880	—	—	—

Total weight condemned approximately 21 tons 4 cwts. 2 lbs.

Food and Drugs

There were 212 food premises in the area, being :

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	12
General Dealers	...	...	...	...	...	78
Fried Fish	...	...	...	...	...	28
Wet Fish	...	...	...	...	...	5
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	21
Grocery and Provisions	...	...	...	...	...	30
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	15
Ice Cream Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	3
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	7
S.D.O., Y.M.C.A. and Colliery Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	4
Supermarket	...	...	...	...	...	4
Snack Bar	...	...	...	...	...	5
						212

There are three dairies, A. E. Smith, B. English and Houghton Dairy Farms Co. Ltd., and the number of premises registered for the sale of Ice Cream is 110 being:—

General Dealers	...	...	...	...	...	59
Grocery	...	...	...	...	...	10
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	7
Cinemas	...	...	...	...	...	1
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	7
Ice Cream Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	4
Colliery Canteen	...	...	...	...	...	2
Fish and Chip Shop	...	...	...	...	...	1
Petrol Filling Station	...	...	...	...	...	1
Snack Bar	...	...	...	...	...	4
Wine Stores	...	...	...	...	...	3
Supermarkets	...	...	...	...	...	2
Bingo Halls	...	...	...	...	...	2
Post Offices	...	...	...	...	...	2
Hairdressers	...	...	...	...	...	2
Newsagents	...	...	...	...	...	2
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	1
						110

Inspections are regularly carried out by the Public Health Inspectors of all food preparing premises and the standard is now very good. Owners and occupiers have co-operated with the Inspectorate in their efforts to obtain a high standard.

Dogs not “under control” are a nuisance to shopkeepers and owners of animals are encouraged to leave them outside of food premises when shopping.

Unsound Food

Meat and offal condemned from the four slaughterhouses is collected and transported in sealed containers by a firm of processors for the manufacture of fertilisers, etc.

Foods from retail premises are surrendered to the Health Department and are burned or destroyed and disposed of on the Council's tips.

167 tins vegetables; 201 tins meat; 496 tins fruit; 23 tins rice; 29 tins milk; 52 tins fish; 28 tins soup; $7\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. flour; $29\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. margarine; $1\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. lard; 1 tin baking powder; 10 steak and kidney pies; 39 tins chicken; 28 sponge puddings; 1 tin macaroni; 1 tin frozen egg; 2 tins corned beef; 2 tins seafood; 1 tin steak and gravy; 8 tins tomato juice; 3 jars jam; 1 jar peanut butter; 7 tins hot dogs; 19 tins baby food; 42 tins evaporated milk; 1 tin Irish stew; 1 tin spaghetti; 21 tins poultry; 4 tins London grill; 1 pre-packed pork.

Total Weight : $1,226\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. = 10 cwts. 3 qtrs. 1 st. 6 lbs.

Factories

The following are the principal places within your district:

1. Philadelphia Engine Works and Repairing Shops.
2. N.E.E.B. Electrical Power Sub-Station.
3. Sunderland and District Omnibus Co.
4. Co-operative Stores and Workshops.
5. Gas Works.
6. Joinery Works.
7. Boring Tool Works.
8. Printing Works.
9. Builders Merchants.
10. Bakeries.
11. Sugar Confectioners.
12. Clothing Factories.
13. Iron Foundry.
14. Motor Repair Shops.
15. Boot Repair Shops.
16. Cement Blocks.
17. Building Works.
18. Packing Cases.
19. Travelling Cases.
20. Electrical Accessories.
21. Woodwork Machinery.
22. Light Engineering Works.
23. Cosmetic Factory.
24. Sausage and Pie Makers.
25. Coachbuilders.
26. Gown Manufacturers.
27. Mineral Waters Factory.
28. Foam Rubber Products.

During the year these have been inspected and any nuisances or defects found were remedied without the necessity for formal action.

1. Inspections for the purpose of provisions as to Health (including Inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspect.	Written Notices	Occupier Prosectd
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	53	30	5	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ..	—	—	—	—
Total	55	32	5	—

2. Defects Found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found			No. of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S1)	1	1	—	—
Overcrowding (S2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S3) ..	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S4) ..	2	2	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S6) ..	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S7):				
Insufficient	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other Offences (Not including offences relating to outwork)	2	2	—	—
Total ..	5	5	—	—

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